

# HOUSE BUDGET REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

## Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 2023 Regular Session

February 22, 2023

### Call to Order and Roll Call

The 3rd meeting of the House Budget Review Subcommittee on Health and Family Services was held on February 22, 2023, at 10:00 AM in Room 169 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Danny Bentley, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

### Present were:

Members: Representative Danny Bentley, Chair; Representative Samara Heavrin, Representative Kimberly Poore Moser, Representative Adam Bowling, Representative Josie Raymond, and Representative Lisa Willner.

Guests: Dr. Steven Stack, Commissioner, Department for Public Health, Cabinet for Health and Family Services; Mike Tuggle, Assistant Director, Division of Administration and Financial Management, Department for Public Health, Cabinet for Health and Family Services; and Lisa Lee, Commissioner, Department for Medicaid Services, Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

LRC Staff: Miriam Fordham, Kevin Newton, and Benjamin Thompson.

### Approval of Minutes

Representative Raymond made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 15, 2023, meeting of the subcommittee. Representative Willner seconded the motion and the minutes were approved without objection.

### Public Health Laboratory Replacement

Dr. Stack provided information regarding the importance of the State Central Laboratory and the need for an updated facility.

In response to a question from Chair Bentley, Dr. Stack stated that the cost estimate of a new laboratory was roughly \$185 million in the feasibility study that was conducted by a third party.

In response to a question from Representative Bowling, Dr. Stack noted that the feasibility study was conducted by Omni Architects.

### Medicaid Vision, Hearing, and Dental Adult Benefit Services Expansion

Commissioner Lee provided a presentation regarding Medicaid services, specifically for vision, hearing, and dental benefits for the adult population.

In response to a question from Representative Moser, Commissioner Lee noted that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) was reviewing the amended state Medicaid plan to include the vision, hearing and dental services and the department was awaiting approval from CMS to make changes.

In response to a question from Chair Bentley, Commissioner Lee stated that a dental implant

would be less costly than a four tooth bridge, but it would need to be a medical necessity in order for Medicaid to cover the service. Medicaid would not cover full mouth dental implants.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.